

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN
REGULAR MEETING
Chaplin, Connecticut
Thursday, July 7, 2022**

Members Present: Juan Roman III, First Selectman; Anthony Pinto, Selectman; Kenneth Fortier, Selectman

Members Absent: None

Others Present: Richard Weingart, Chairman/Board of Finance; Dave Stone, DPW Supervisor; Diana Alvarez, Town Treasurer; Lisa Kegler, Senior Center Director; Susan Welshman, Suzanne Krodel, Administrative Assistants

1. **Call to Order:** Meeting was called to order at 7:00pm
2. **First Audience of Citizens:** None
3. **Additions to the Agenda:** Department of Public Works Report to be added to agenda as G under Communications and Reports.
4. **Approve minutes of the Board of Selectmen regular meeting on June 2, 2022** *K. Fortier made a MOTION to approve the June 2, 2022 Regular meeting minutes and the June 28, 2022 Special Meeting Minutes. J. Pinto seconded the MOTION. All in favor, MOTION passed.*
5. **Communications and Reports**
 - A. Trooper Report - The Board reviewed the detailed report from Trooper Shaun Tucker:
 - During the month of June, the Resident Trooper performed one pistol permit background check.
 - Enhanced security checks continued at Chaplin's schools.
 - The Resident Trooper, in conjunction with the Chaplin Senior Center offered a Home and Auto Safety Presentation on June 13, 2022. The presentation was well attended and received positive feedback from residents.
 - B. Board Members Reports: None
 - C. Board of Finance Discussion: D Weingart discussed the idea of creating a special revenue fund for ARPA funds and a formal appropriation procedure with the BOS acting as the final authority. Reported year end budget transfers and are working on the final close out. Signed memorandum of understanding. New reporting system OPM implemented. Current with their reporting as of today.
 - D. Correspondence: J Roman presented the new Town of Chaplin Informational Mailer. Bulk mailing.
 - E. Building/Infrastructure: J. Roman reported that landscaping around the electronic sign has been completed. England Road Bridge went to a second architectural firm for review.
 - F. Treasurer Report: Diana Alvarez reported working with Val on correcting figures to the audit book where OPM gets their information. The numbers

that OPM were given were incorrect after having gotten mixed up. The issue has been corrected and either the auditor will make the correction or Diana may receive an email with correction directions.

- G. Department of Public Works Report: Dave Stone reported that in June of 2022 all personnel are well and that it has now been over a year with no significant injuries. He feels that a fourth full time employee would be helpful especially for coverage when someone is out. He suggested the possibility of a blended DPW/Firefighter position. His workers just completed an electrical hazards and safety workshop training with UConn. D Stone reports that the new sweeper is in good condition and operating as expected. He has received all quotes for the new plow truck. Body packages would be purchased as "allied equipment". A letter of intent needs to be signed around the second week in July to receive the truck in the 3rd quarter of 2023. D Stone suggests changing to a Freightliner truck with an Everest body. The Freightliner shop is in East Hartford and he is comfortable with the service that they provide. D Stone reported that the boom mower is still an ongoing issue. D Stone also brought up the need for a bucket truck due to the continuing tree mortality and their inability to keep up as currently budgeted. D Stone analyzed the long term cost savings and has figured it to be somewhere in the area of \$20,000-\$50,000 per year. Now looking at an older bucket truck with a boom in good condition and an asking price of \$20,000. Will keep the BOS updated. D Stone reported that work completed includes street sweeping as well as smaller drainage projects. Tree work, brush cutting continues. The DPW has also performed park and building maintenance; road patching; roadside mowing and weed eating. D Stone reported that the roads are in good condition, shimming bids have been awarded and that road patching and roadside mowing will be performed later in the summer. The DPW still has one driveway apron to repair on Tower Hill due to a drainage complaint. Will finish the first round of mowing in a week or two and still has much tree work to do.

6. New Business

- A. Discuss and possible action regarding the Senior Center kitchen staff: Lisa Kegler presented the possibility of increasing the hours of the Senior Center kitchen staff. Lisa reported that pre-Covid the Senior Center offered lunch on Wednesdays and breakfast on Thursdays serving approximately 14 members. When the Senior Center closed due to Covid in March of 2020 the former First Selectman worked with the former Senior Center Director and Health Department to offer curbside pickup lunches on Wednesdays as well. The number of members taking advantage of this new program went from 30 to nearly 60 every Monday and Wednesday requiring the cook and assistant cook to work both days and longer hours. The cook used to work an average of twelve hours a week and is now working an average of 15 hours a week. The assistant cook worked an average of 4 hours a week and is now working an

average of 8 hours a week. There are no stated hours in the job description of each position. This is a popular and well attended program and the BOS will revisit it.

- B. Discuss and possible action regarding the purchase of a plow truck: D Stone presented the Board with pricing information for trucks and bodies/plows from International, Freightliner, Everest Body/Plow, Viking Body/Plow and Tenco Body/Plow. Currently have an International truck but has lost confidence in their local service. D Stone recommends going with the Freightliner truck with the Everest Body/Plow package. Current CIP budget stands at \$144,449 with a planned balance of \$209,449 FY 2023/2024 which will be more than required for the truck's purchase price of \$202,440.17. *J. Pinto made a MOTION to allow the First Selectman to sign the purchase agreement for the Freightliner Truck with Everest Body Package as proposed. K Fortier seconded the MOTION. All in favor, MOTION passed.*
- C. Discuss and possible action regarding the location of radar sign. D Stone presented the Board with suggested placement of radar speed sign. These include South Bear Hill Road in the area of 124 to 176; North Bear Hill Road in the area of 407 to 437; and Pumpkin Hill Road in the area of 31. *J Roman made a MOTION to place the radar signs at South Bear Hill Road in the area of 124 to 126 and at North Bear Hill Road in the area of 407 to 437. J Pinto seconded the MOTION. All in favor, MOTION passed.*
- D. Tax Collector Refunds: *J Pinto made a MOTION to pay refund of \$11.37 to Arthur Olsen, 88 Masonic Road, Charlestown, MA. J Roman seconded the MOTION. All in favor, MOTION passed.*
- E. Appointments and Resignations: *J Roman made a MOTION to appoint Linda Roman as a Regular member to the Community and Economic Development Commission for a term beginning 2/2/2022 and ending 2/1/2025. J Pinto seconded the MOTION. All in favor, MOTION passed.* Discussion of need for party affiliation balance when appointing. *J Roman made a motion to re-appoint Daniel Cates, Clayton Coogan and Matt Foster to the Recreation Commission with terms starting 7/1/2022 and ending 6/30/2024. K Fortier seconded the MOTION. All in favor, MOTION passed. J Roman made a motion to appoint Ian and Amy Ouimette to the Recreation Commission with a 30-day contingency to register to Vote in the Town of Chaplin, term starting 7/1/2022 and ending 6/30/2024. J Pinto seconded the MOTION. All in favor, MOTION passed. No resignations.*

7. Old Business

- A. American Rescue Plan Funds: J. Roman reported that he is working with Dennis O'Brian to perform a walk through of the HVAC System at the Senior Center. J Pinto suggested that we procure quotes for a 1:1 replacement of the system and is concerned with how long the process is taking. D Stone stated that the job needs to go out to sealed bid with specifications because the cost will be over \$7,500. J Roman stated that he is waiting for the specification language from Dennis and will be meeting with CCROG tomorrow to discuss the possible procurement of a

contractor through the Town's CCROG membership. He and Dave will keep the Board posted.

- B. COVID-19: J. Roman reported that numbers are dropping and there is no new information to be relayed.
- C. All Pending and New FOI Requests: None
- D. USDA Grant – Purchase of a new firetruck: J. Pinto reported that the truck is on track to arrive in Chaplin by the end of the month of September but may arrive earlier. The new truck may be able to participate in the parade in the beginning of September.

8. Second Audience of Citizens - Note: Comments are limited to agenda items and subject to Chair discretion: D Weingart asked about the closing for Tutko Road. J Roman reported that the attorneys are talking and that a closing will be scheduled in the next couple of weeks.

9. Agenda Suggestions for next meeting: None.

10. Date, time, and place of next meeting (August 4, 2022, at 7:00pm, Chaplin Town Hall).

11. Adjourn: *J. Pinto made a MOTION to adjourn at 8:51pm. K. Fortier seconded the MOTION. All in favor, MOTION passed.*

*Respectfully submitted by,
Susan Welshman
Administrative Assistant*